

BEST AVAILABLE

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AGENT REPORT

Security Information

Source: Informant
Assigned: Intelligence Personality
Date: Austria, Linz

30 June 1953

L/28659 RG/TW/mcg

On 9 June 1953, the following information regarding SUBJECT was received from Informant 5010 during the course of a routine liaison visit:

Dr. Anton FILLNER, born 19 March 1908 in Leobach, Upper Austria, Austrian citizen, Roman Catholic, residing Fuengerstrasse 51, Linz, is currently editor of the Socialist organ "Das Signal". Prior to the appointment of Walter Hitzinger as Director General of VOEST (Vereinigte Oesterreichische Eisen und Stahlwerke - United Austrian Iron and Steel Works), FILLNER edited the VOEST Socialist organ "Die Wahrheit". An argument between Hitzinger and FILLNER resulted in SUBJECT's transfer to the VOEST subsidiary, Firma Stocker, Herrenstrasse, Linz, and to his suspension from VOEST employment in April 1953 when he contested the legality of the transfer. SUBJECT is currently litigating Hitzinger's decision before the Linz Chamber of Labor.

During the illegal National Socialist period (1934 - 1938) SUBJECT was active in the journalist field for the illegal National Socialist party and regularly contributed to the party organ "Oesterreichischer Beobachter". Subsequent to the annexation of Austria in 1938, SUBJECT was appointed Gau-Propagandaleiter (chief of the party provincial press office) and was awarded the title, Oberregierungsrat. On 11 March 1938, SUBJECT participated in the SS (Schutzstaffel - Elite Guard) occupation of the Linz Police Directorate. Informant National Socialist records, dated 9 November 1939, indicate that SUBJECT had been a member of the National Socialist Party since 1933, and SS-Leutnant (1st Lieutenant) and chief of the Propaganda. These documents also revealed that SUBJECT had been responsible for the arrest and incarceration of numerous political opponents during the Nazi coup in March 1938.

Informant alleged that FILLNER was on friendly terms with Gausleiter (Gau Leader) and had been commissioned by him to purchase works of art in Holland and France. FILLNER allegedly received 1,000,000 marks from Gausleiter for this purpose. Informant further alleged that SUBJECT had embezzled a sizeable portion of this fund and as a consequence, had been sentenced to an SS penal colony. In 1941 he was transferred to a propaganda unit in Potsdam, Germany where he received specialized training as a war correspondent and was awarded the rank of Sonderfuhrer. SUBJECT subsequently served as a war correspondent on the Eastern Front. From 1945 to 1947 SUBJECT was imprisoned in Camp Marius near Garmisch, Garmisch. Upon his release from internment FILLNER joined the Socialist Party and was appointed editor of the Socialist newspaper published

WILHELM GOETTER/THOMAS A. WILHELM
505th SIG Det, Sig-Dep "1" (Linz)

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

FOR COORDINATION WITH US Army

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)

- (2)(A) Privacy ☐
(2)(B) Methods/Sources ☒
(2)(G) Foreign Relations ☐

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